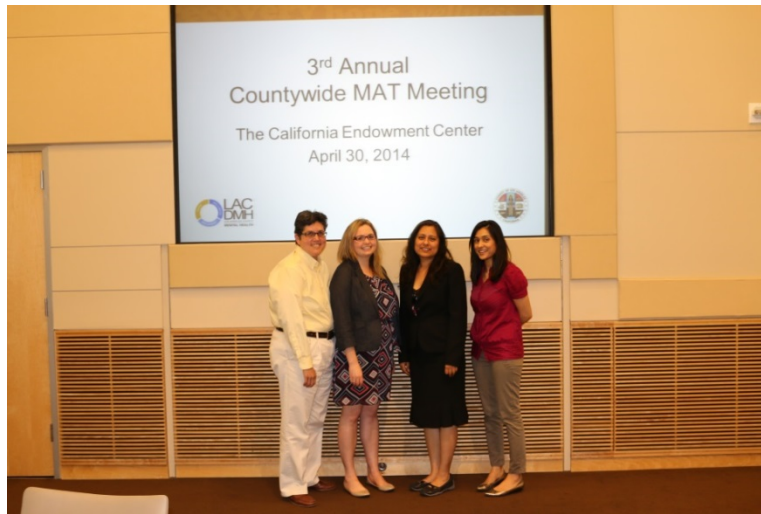


MULTIDISCIPLINARY ASSESSMENT TEAM THIRD ANNUAL PROVIDER MEETING

By Kathleen Piché, L.C.S.W., Public Affairs Director



On Wednesday, April 30, 2014, over 200 staff from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and staff from approximately 52 county-contracted providers attended the 3rd Annual Countywide Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (MAT) Provider Meeting at the California Endowment Center. Hosted by LACDMH and DCFS, the day of learning provided information relevant to MAT managers, supervisors and assessors.

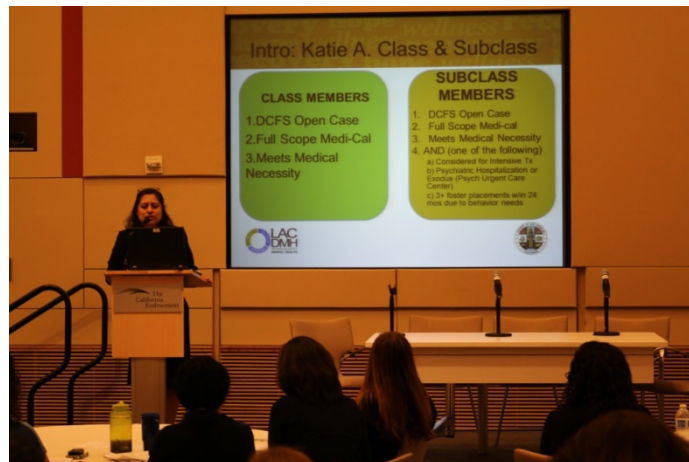
Allegra Klacsmann, Ph.D., Child Welfare Division, LACDMH, welcomed the crowd and introduced morning speakers Laura Andrade, Ph.D., DCFS, who gave updates on DCFS issues and Anabel Rodriguez, L.C.S.W., LACDMH Program Manager, who gave an update on the Katie A. subclass form. Ms. Klacsmann gave an update on the MAT Language Capacity and Birth to 5 Training Needs Survey.



The morning session was concluded with a panel from Hathaway-Sycamores, the Children's Institute and Pacific Clinics staff, who spoke on the role of case managers,

trauma screening for newly detained foster care children and developmental screening in MAT, respectively.

Afternoon session topics included how special education and 504 plans address the educational needs of children in foster care, engaging teachers/conducting a classroom observation during MAT and utilizing the First 5 “Kits for New Parents” during the MAT process.



Ms. Rodriguez noted the purpose of the meeting was to increase communication and collaboration between agencies and providers and ultimately provide better services.

